



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.2420 | FAX (517) 373.2764
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/garcia/

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, July 3, 2003

Contact: Karen Szczepanski
(517) 373-2420

Motorcycle Safety Education Saved

Legislation sponsored by Sen. Garcia restores funding for important program

LANSING – Funding for the Motorcycle Safety Program has been restored through a bill sponsored by Sen. Valde Garcia, R-Howell, which was passed by the Michigan State Senate today.

“Motorcycle safety education is the number one way to prevent accidents and deaths due to motorcycle accidents on Michigan roads and highways,” Garcia said. “Funding education programs should continue to be a priority for our state, despite the budget challenges Michigan is facing.”

SB 462 would amend the Michigan Vehicle Code to transfer the responsibility for the establishment and administration of the Motorcycle Safety Program from the State Board of Education to the Secretary of State. The program allocates grants to colleges or universities, intermediate school districts, law enforcement agencies, or other governmental agencies to provide motorcycle safety courses to Michigan residents.

Governor Granholm’s proposal to balance the 2003-2004 fiscal year budget called for the elimination of the Motorcycle Safety Program, but thanks to Garcia’s legislation, motorcycle drivers can safely traverse Michigan’s roadways.

According to Garcia, the Governor’s action was puzzling especially since cutting the program would not have saved the state any money. Funding for the Motorcycle Safety Fund is drawn from motorcycle endorsements, endorsement renewals and motorcycle registration.

SB 462 was passed unanimously by the Senate. The bill will now be sent to Gov. Granholm for consideration.